

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

The House met at 10 a.m.

## **GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

Pursuant to notice and on motion, the following bill was introduced and read the first time:

A bill, "An Act to Amend the Correctional Services Act" (Bill 71).

On motion, it was ordered the above-noted bill be read the second time on tomorrow.

Pursuant to notice, the Government House Leader (J. Hogan) moved:

**THAT** in accordance with Standing Order 65(e), the Privileges and Elections Committee shall comprise the:

Member for Virginia Waters – Pleasantville (B. Davis);  
Member for Burin - Grand Bank (P. Pike);  
Member for St. Barbe - L'Anse aux Meadows (K.L. Howell);  
Member for St. John's Centre (J. Dinn); and  
Member for Terra Nova (L. Parrott).

The Speaker put the question and declared the motion carried.

Pursuant to order and on motion, debate commenced and concluded on second reading of a bill entitled "An Act to Repeal the Atlantic Provinces Harness Racing Commission Act" (Bill 44).

Pursuant to order and on motion, a bill entitled "An Act to Repeal the Atlantic Provinces Harness Racing Commission Act" (Bill 44) was read the second time and, on motion, it was ordered that Bill 44 be referred to a Committee of the Whole now.

Pursuant to order and on motion, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider a bill entitled "An Act to Repeal the Atlantic Provinces Harness Racing Commission Act" (Bill 44).

The Speaker left the Chair.

The Member for Bonavista (C. Pardy) took the Chair of Committee of the Whole.

On motion, the Committee rose.

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The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chair (C. Pardy) reported the Committee of the Whole had considered the matters to them referred and had directed them to report the Committee had recommended, without amendment, a bill entitled:

“An Act to Repeal the Atlantic Provinces Harness Racing Commission Act” (Bill 44).

The Speaker put the question and it was ordered the report be received and adopted.

On motion, it was ordered that Bill 44 be read the third time on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion, debate commenced and concluded on second reading of a bill entitled “An Act to Repeal the Economic Diversification and Growth Enterprises Act” (Bill 70).

Pursuant to order and on motion, a bill entitled “An Act to Repeal the Economic Diversification and Growth Enterprises Act” (Bill 70) was read the second time and, on motion, it was ordered that Bill 70 be referred to a Committee of the Whole now.

Pursuant to order and on motion, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider a bill entitled “An Act to Repeal the Economic Diversification and Growth Enterprises Act” (Bill 70).

The Speaker left the Chair.

The Member for Bonavista (C. Pardy) took the Chair of Committee of the Whole.

On motion, the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chair (C. Pardy) reported the Committee of the Whole had considered the matters to them referred and had directed them to report the Committee had recommended, without amendment, a bill entitled:

“An Act to Repeal the Economic Diversification and Growth Enterprises Act” (Bill 70).

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The Speaker put the question and it was ordered the report be received and adopted.

On motion, it was ordered that Bill 70 be read the third time on tomorrow.

### **Point of Order**

The Member for Corner Brook (G. Byrne) noted a Member had said something indirectly which would be unparliamentary to say directly. The Member for Terra Nova (L. Parrott) withdrew their remark.

On motion, the House recessed at 11:05 a.m.

At 12:30 p.m., the Honourable the Speaker (D. Bennett) and the Clerk of the House of Assembly appeared before the Honourable Joan Marie J. Aylward, O.N.L, B.N., R.N., ICD.D., Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador, at Government House.

The Speaker addressed the Lieutenant Governor, as follows:

"It is my agreeable duty on behalf of His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, His Faithful Commons in Newfoundland and Labrador, to present to your Honour a bill for the appropriation of supply granted in the present session."

The Clerk read the following bill:

A bill, "An Act Granting to His Majesty Certain Sums of Money for Defraying Certain Expenses of the Public Service for the Financial Year Ending March 31, 2025 and for Other Purposes Relating to the Public Service" (Bill 63).

The Lieutenant Governor then said, "In His Majesty's Name, I thank His Loyal Subjects, I accept their benevolence, and I assent to this bill."

The Speaker further addressed the Lieutenant Governor, as follows:

"May it please Your Honour, the General Assembly of the Province has at its present Session passed a bill, to which, in the name and on behalf of the General Assembly, I respectfully request Your Honour's assent."

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Whereupon the Clerk read the following bill:

A bill, "An Act to Amend the Revenue Administration Act No. 4" (Bill 36).

The Lieutenant Governor then said, "In His Majesty's Name, I assent to this bill."

The Speaker resumed the Chair at 2 p.m.

## **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

### **Members' Statements**

The following Members provided statements:

The Member for Placentia - St. Mary's (S. Gambin-Walsh) recognizing Harnum's Cakes and Pastries of New Harbour.

The Member for Placentia West - Bellevue (J. Dwyer) recognizing the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 29, serving the Marystown and Burin area.

The Member for St. George's - Humber (S. Reid) recognizing Alice Maude Gosse of Red Brook on their 101<sup>st</sup> birthday.

The Member for Torngat Mountains (L. Evans) recognizing designer April Allen of Rigolet, for their success in the fashion industry.

The Member for Stephenville - Port au Port (T. Wakeham) recognizing the Caribou Curling Club of Stephenville on its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

### **Ministerial Statements**

The following Ministers provided statements:

The Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture (E. Loveless) recognizing Canadian Agriculture Literacy month.

The Member for Exploits (P. Forsey) and Leader of the Third Party (J. Dinn) responded to the statement.

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The Minister of Health and Community Services (T. Osborne) recognizing Nutrition month.

The Members for Conception Bay South (B. Petten) and Torngat Mountains (L. Evans) responded to the statement.

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## **Oral Questions**

The House proceeded to Oral Questions.

## **Presenting Reports by Standing and Select Committees**

There were no reports by Standing or Select Committees presented.

## **Tabling of Documents**

Pursuant to Section 10 of the *Architects Act, 2008*, the Minister of Digital Government and Service NL (S. Stoodley) tabled:

[Architects Licensing Board 2023 Annual Report.](#)

## **Notices of Motion**

The Minister of Finance (S. Coady) gave notice they would on tomorrow move that this House approve in general the budgetary policy of the government.

The Minister of Finance (S. Coady) gave notice they would on tomorrow move the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply to consider a resolution and related Bill 72 for the granting of supply to His Majesty.

## **Answers to Questions for Which Notice Has Been Given**

There were no answers to questions for which notice had been given.

## **Petitions**

The following Members presented petitions:

The Member for Harbour Main (H. Conway Ottenheimer) regarding road conditions in the district.

The Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure (J. Abbott) replied to the petition.

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The Member for Ferryland (L. O'Driscoll) regarding repairs and upgrades to the breakwater in Trepassey.

The Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure (J. Abbott) replied to the petition.

The Member for St. John's Centre (J. Dinn) regarding introduction of legislation to limit the amount by which rent can be increased annually.

### **PRIVATE MEMBER'S RESOLUTION**

Pursuant to notice and on motion, debate commenced and concluded on the resolution standing in the name of the Member for Stephenville - Port au Port (T. Wakeham):

**WHEREAS** for the second year in a row, our province's fishing industry may be destined for a shutdown over issues such as pricing, leaving frustrated harvesters out of the water protesting instead of on their boats fishing, and leaving fish processing plant workers lacking product to process while days and weeks are lost;

**AND WHEREAS** these repeated shutdowns in our fishing industry cost our fish harvesters valuable and perhaps irreplaceable fishing time in the short harvesting season, cost our fish processing plant workers the work they need, cost our province an important source of spinoff economic activity in our communities and revenue, and cost Newfoundland and Labrador its reputation as a stable place to do business;

**AND WHEREAS** many approaches have been proposed in the past and many approaches are in place in other jurisdictions that might offer hope of a resolution to the current impasse and ways of avoiding future impasses – but good solutions are usually found faster when all parties are around the negotiating table working hard on a resolution;

**AND WHEREAS** an industry as important to Newfoundland and Labrador as the fishing industry requires the hands-on leadership and presence of our province's top leaders in government, including the Premier and the Fisheries Minister, especially in times of crisis like this;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that this Hon. House urge the Premier and the Province's Minister of Fisheries to immediately take a hands-on role at the table

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with representatives of our fisheries workers and fish processors to help find a swift and effective resolution of the current impasse, as well as long-term solutions that make future impasses less likely and help place our fishing industry on a more stable and steady footing so the opportunities our province needs are not lost.

The Speaker put the question and declared the resolution carried.

The Government House Leader (J. Hogan) moved:

**THAT** this House do now adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, March 20 (Budget Day) at 2 p.m.

The Speaker put the question.

The House divided.

<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Nays</b>
A. Furey	T. Wakeham
J. Hogan	B. Petten
L. Dempster	L. Parrott
J. Haggie	P. Dinn
G. Byrne	H. Conway Ottenheimer
B. Davis	J. Wall
F. Hutton	J. Dwyer
T. Osborne	C. Tibbs
S. Coady	L. O'Driscoll
E. Loveless	C. Pardy
K. Lynn Howell	P. Forsey
A. Parsons	J. Dinn
S. Crocker	J. Brown
S. Stoodley	L. Evans
J. Abbott	E. Joyce
P. Pike	P. Lane
S. Gambin-Walsh	
S. Reid	
L. Stoyles	

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The Speaker declared the motion carried.

On motion, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, March 20, at 2 p.m.

**Kim Hawley George, KC**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly (A)